

Employment of unlicensed technicians

A position paper of the Montana Board of Pharmacy

Pharmacy technicians and technicians-in-training must register with the Board of Pharmacy before beginning employment. Unlicensed personnel working as pharmacy technicians present both an ethical and legal dilemma for themselves, their employers and the pharmacists with whom they work. Dispensing errors made while unlicensed technicians are on duty present increased exposure to liability for all concerned.

Unlicensed technicians found performing pharmacy technician duties will be asked by the Board of Pharmacy compliance officer or other board representative to cease their activities. A note will be sent to the pharmacist-in-charge of the pharmacy in violation, and the board will monitor pharmacy personnel ratios on an ongoing basis.

If the unlicensed technician has not registered with the Board of Pharmacy after 30 days or is found to be performing technician duties within that time, a board-generated complaint will be issued to both the pharmacist-in-charge and owner of the pharmacy and appropriate disciplinary action will be taken.

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